S/N: 09/253,831 Atty Dkt No. 9329-001COI

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Sasson in view of Sasaki et al (US Patent No. 5,034,804). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 27 depends directly from Claim 23 and is therefore believed to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 23.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner has failed to set forth a <u>prima facie</u> case of either anticipation or obviousness, as none of the cited references teach or suggest the claimed invention. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 21-31 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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